underground railway in the cities of Delhi, Bombay, Madras, Hyderabad, Bangalore and Kanpur in view of the tremendous traffic congestion in these cities and explosive growth of population;

(b) whether Government have already undertaken any survey for underground railways in the above cities and if so, the details therof indicating the result achieved;

(c) if not, what are the reasons, thereof, and

(d) whether Government would consider the possibility of undertaking the survey in the near future ?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SHEILA KAUL) : (a) to (d) As far as Delhi is concerned, there is a proposal to introduce 27 kilometres of underground railway as part of Delhi Mass Rapid Transit System (MRTS) project. The proposal is based on a feasibility survey conduct by Rail India Technical & Economic Services. No final decision has been taken about the scheduling of the Mass Rapid Transit System Project which is estimated to cost about Rs 7500/- crores.

In regard to Bombay, Madras, Hyderabad and Bangalore, survey have not indicated the need for "underground railway" since surface/elevated rail systems would suffice.

As regards Kanpur, no feasibility study has been conducted for any rail-based metro transport system. Central assistance to a tune of 40% for undertaking a survey could be considered in the near future if a proposal is received.

COTTON PRODUCTION

5022. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total quantum of cotton production in the country and in which part of the country cotton is chiefly grown;

(b) whether any incentive is provided to the cotton growers of the country; and

(c) if so, indicate the total amount of incentive paid to the growers during the period 1992-93 and 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) According to the present assessment, the production of cotton during 1993-94 is likely to be about 118.55 lakh bales of 170 Kgs. each. The major cotton growing States are Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan and Tamilnadu.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Under Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP), amount released by Government of India (75% central share) during 1992-93 and 1993-94 was Rs. 961.7 lakh and Rs. 665.9 lakh respectively. Besides, cottan growers were given enough intensive in terms of higher minimum support prices which were increased by Rs. 105 and Rs. 100 per quintal during 1992-93 and 1993-94 respectively.

नीम पर आधारित कीटनाशकों का प्रयोग

5023. **श्री अजीत जोगी** : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि नीम पर आधारित कीटनाशकों के प्रयोग से उन कीटों पर प्रभावी नियंत्रण कर लिया गया है जिन पर वर्तमान उपलब्ध कीटनाशक अप्रभावी सिद्ध हुए हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो नीम पर आधारित इन कीटनाशकों को प्रोत्साहन देने के लिए तथा प्राकृतिक खाद और कीटनाशकों पर आधारित कृषि को लोकप्रिय बनाने के लिए क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एस. कृष्ण कुमार) : (क) नीम आधारित कीटनाशी कुछ ऐसे कीटों और कृमियों के प्रति कारगर पाए गए हैं जिनमें प्राय: कुछ रासायनिक कीटनाशियों के प्रति-रोधक क्षमता देखी गई है ।

(ख) इस संबंध में उठाए गए प्रमुख कदम निम्नलिखित हैं :—

1. नीम आधारित कीटनाशियों के फार्मूलेशन को बढावा देने के लिए पंजीकरण की प्रक्रिया को सरल बनाना;

2. अवशिष्ट पंजीकरण की अवधि के दौरान नीम आधारित कीटनाशियों के फार्मूलेशन का वाणिज्यिकरण करना;

3. समेकित कीट प्रबंध के समग्र क्षेत्र के अंतर्गत नीम आधारित कीटनाशियों को शामिल करना;

4. जैव उर्वरकों और कार्बनिक खादों तथा कीट नियंत्रण की गैर रासायनिक विधियों के माध्यम से जैविक खेती को बढ़ावा देना ।

Development of Horticulture Poultry Farming and Pisciculture

5024. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that no Central Agency run by Government like National Agricultureal Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED), Fish Farmers Development Agency (FIDA) etc. have taken adequate step for the development of Horticulture, poultry farming, pisciculture etc. in the North-East Region; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation (NAFED) is not an Agency run by the Government and development of Horticulture, Poultry Farming etc. at the Field level are not covered under the objects of NAFED. However, Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDA) have taken adequate steps for development of Pisciculture The National Horticulture Board also extends assistance to States for development of post harvest facilities for fruits, vegetables, flower and mushroom on project basis. Assistance for poultry farming is extended to eligible beneficiaries through Distt. Rural Development Agencies.

(b) During the Eighth Plan period, a sum of about Rs. 35 crores is proposed to be invested for different horiculture crops in the Noth-Eastern Region. Major emphasis has been given to the development of spices like turmeric, pepper, ginger. chillies, large cardamom, tree spices and minor spices, rejuvenation of old orchards, improving, supply of planting material, development of cashewnut, coconut, betalvine, mushroom, floriculture, potato etc. and use of plastics.

A Market Intervention Scheme for Horticulture produce is implemented at the specific request of State Government concerned to safeguard the interests of growers.

Under ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of Freshwater Aquaculture, 46 Fish Farmers Development Agencies (FFDAs) have been sanctioned in the North-Eastern Region. The FFDAs provide incentives in the form of subsidy to fish farmers for construction of new ponds, renovation of ponds and tanks inputs for first year fish culture, running water fish culture, integrated fish farming, aerators, establishment of fish seed hateheries etc. The agencies also provide training to the fish famers in improved methods of fish farming.

मध्य प्रदेश में इल्ली द्वारा दलहनों का नाश

5025. **श्री राधवजी** : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को यह जानकारी है कि मध्य प्रदेश में बड़े पैमाने पर इल्ली द्वारा दलहन की फसल नष्ट हो जाती है;

(ख) क्या ऐसे बीजों पर कोई अनुसंधान किया गया है जिन पर इल्ली का प्रभाव न पड़ता हो, यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है, यदि नहीं, तो क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार इस संबंध में कोई कार्यक्रम शुरू करने का विचार रखती है; और

(ग) क्या सरकार को यह जानकारी है कि इल्ली को मारने के लिए अनेक घटिया कीटनाशक मध्य प्रदेश के बाजारों में उपलब्ध हैं, यदि हां, तो पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान किन-किन उत्पादकों के विरुद्ध कार्यवाही की गई है और इस प्रकार की गई कार्यवाही का ब्यौरा क्या है?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एस. कृष्ण कुमार) : मध्य प्रदेश में कैटरपिलर कीड़ों के आक्रमण से दलहन फसलों को होने